

Date: 1/3/06

No. of Sheets (including cover): 2**RECEIVED**  
**CENTRAL FAX CENTER**  
**JAN 03 2006**

TO: Examiner Cam-Y Truong

Phone: (571) 272-4042  
Fax: (571) 273-8300From: Anne Vachon Dougherty, Esq.  
3173 Cedar Road  
Yorktown Hts, NY 10598  
Phone (914) 962-5910  
Fax (914) 962-1973Subject: Patent Application  
Docket No: YO998-220  
Serial No: 09/237,646

Comments: Response to Requirement for Restriction attached

**THE CONTENTS OF THIS TRANSMISSION ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND  
PRIVILEGED AND INTENDED SOLELY FOR VIEWING BY THE  
ADDRESSEE. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS TRANSMISSION IN  
ERROR, PLEASE CONTACT TRANSMITTER AT THE ABOVE-LISTED  
TELEPHONE NUMBER. DO NOT RE-TRANSMIT!!!**

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS  
BEING DEPOSITED VIA FAX TO (571) 273-8300  
DATE OF DEPOSIT: January 3, 2006  
PERSON TRANSMITTING: ANNE VACHON DOUGHERTY

Anne V. Dougherty 1/3/06  
Signature & Date

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JAN 03 2006

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Re Application of : January 3, 2006  
V. Castelli, et al : Group Art No.: 2162  
Serial No. 09/237,646 : Examiner: C. Truong  
Filed: January 26, 1999 : for IBM Corporation  
Anne Vachon Dougherty  
3173 Cedar Road  
Yorktown Heights, NY 10598  
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS  
FOR SIMILARITY RETRIEVAL  
FROM ITERATIVE REFINEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR RESTRICTION**

Sir:

In response to the Requirement for Restriction dated December 1, 2005, Applicants elect to prosecute Claims 1-4, 9-12, and 17-18, without traverse. Claims 5-8 and 13-16 are hereby withdrawn from consideration.

Respectfully submitted,  
V. Castelli, et al

By: Anne Vachon Dougherty  
Anne Vachon Dougherty  
Registration No. 30,374  
Tel. (914) 962-5910

YO998-220

-1-